

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12-16, 18-21 and 22-25 are pending in the application, as claims 5, 11 and 17 were previously canceled without prejudice and new claims 22-25 were added. Support for the new claims can be found on page 13, lines 15-18 and page 12, lines 8-9 and lines 17-18 of the application. No new matter has been added. In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 6-10, 12-16 and 18-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,908,389 to Puskala (Puskala) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0047461 to Weisman, et al. (Weisman).

Independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify that messaging unrelated to the game is distinguishable from game messages. Independent claims 9 and 16 have been similarly amended. Moreover, new dependent claims 22-24 recite the feature that the messaging unrelated to the game is distinguishable from game messages by alert tone, color, light pattern, inbox or icon, and new dependent claim 25 recites the step of updating a date book or calendar of a participant or a non-participating viewer in accordance with a schedule of the multiplayer game. Support for these amendments and new claims can be found on page 13, lines 15-18 and page 12, lines 8-9 and lines 17-18 of the application, and no new matter has been added. None of the cited references discloses, teaches or suggests such subject matter.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that the above claims are patentable over the prior art. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims is respectfully requested. Passing of this case is now believed to be in order, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein. No amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

In the event that the Examiner deems the present application non-allowable, it is requested that the Examiner telephone the Applicant's attorney or agent at the number indicated below so that the prosecution of the present case may be advanced by the clarification of any continuing rejection.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any necessary fee, or credit any overpayment, to Motorola, Inc. Deposit Account No. 50-2117.

Respectfully submitted,

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